makers in the local government. The performance and utility of the commrcial counsellors as well as their contribution is assessed by the concerned Head of Mission.

In the context of the recent measures towards liberalisation of our economy, steps have been taken to strengthen and re-orient the functioning of our commercial representatives abroad. In this periodic briefings of Indian Heads of Missions, the Prime Minister has repeatedly stressed the importance of enhancing the economic content of Indian diplomacy. Accordingly, communications have been addressed to all Heads of Missions outlining the steps required for enhancing their participation in export promotion. These steps include monitoring all economic developments relevant to India extension of assistance to exporters and business delegations, promotion of India's participation in projects offered for international bidding. They have also been asked to prepare comprehensive economic and commercial notes for use by Indian exporters and prepare target oriented action plans to promote our exports, particularly in thrust areas and to undertake market surveys. A mechanism has also been devised for close and continuous interaction between our Missions and our trade/industry organisations to avoid delays in communication. To enable our Missions to effectively discharge these responsibilities, special training programmes have been organised in India for commercial representatives as well as Heads of Missions. For more efficient functioning of our Missions, steps have been taken to computerise information in the commercial/economic wings of some of our Missions.

**भारतीय निर्यातों की लाभप्रदता**

1503 डा. जितेन्द्र कुमार जैन।
श्री राम जैठमलानी

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि वेश के लिए खाद्य तिलहनों के निर्यात करने की अपेक्षा, कपास, गेहूं और चावल का निर्यात करना अधिक लाभकारी है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि विश्व बैंक ने वर्ष 1991 के लिए अपने "कंट्री इकोनॉमिक मैमोरेंडम' ने भी इस संकेत का उल्लेख किया है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने इस मामले में विशेष जानकारी प्राप्त की है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या हैं;

(ङ) यदि इस मामले में कोई अध्ययन नहीं किया गया है तो इसके क्या कारण है; और

(च) क्या सरकार निकट भविष्य में इस संबंध में कोई रिपोर्ट तैयार करवाने का विचार रखती है?

नागरिक आपूर्ति उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री कमालउद्दीन अहमद): (क) से (च) जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

**Export of Minerals from Andhra Pradesh**

1504. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum of mineral exports from Andhra Pradesh in terms of foreign exchange, together with the details of minerals exported in 1992-93;

(b) whether there are any projections to indicate rapid increase in mineral exports from Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) State-wise export statistics and export projections in respect of minerals and not maintained. Minerals mainly being exported from Andhra Pradesh are Barytes, Granite, Manganese Ore, Mica etc.